

THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

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The Voice of the Nation.

It is unnecessary to scan President Wilson's speech in New York yesterday to gain a clue to the meaning of the note to Germany. That note was clear enough in its declaration of a determination to do the utmost to perform the "sacred duty of maintaining the rights of the United States and its citizens and of safeguarding their free exercise and enjoyment." But in one respect yesterday's deliverance was illuminating on the point of the present issue. These words are to be read directly in relationship to the pending question:

"When a crisis occurs in this country it is as if you put your hand on the pulse of a dynamo, it is as if the things which you were in contact with were spiritually bred. You had nothing to do with them except, if you listen truly, to speak the things that you hear. These things, which brood over the river, this spirit now moves with the men who represent the nation in the navy, these things will move upon the waters in the maneuvers; no threat lifted against any man, against any nation, against any interest, but just a great, solemn evidence that the force of America is the force of moral principle, that there is not anything else that she loves and that there is not anything else for which she will contend."

This utterance can signify no less than that the President regards his statements lately made to Germany as expressive of the American spirit, in behalf of a great moral principle, a principle of humanity. Proof is abundant that the American people stand solidly and staunchly behind the President in his recent declaration.

Window Gardening.

Good citizenship demands not merely keeping things clean and neat through unremitting care of the premises, but adding something positively to the attractiveness of the street. Washington can do much more than it does in this direction. It has abundant room for dooryard gardening which is not commensurately utilized, and with a very little more labor on the part of householders each block in the city could be made beautiful. In another respect the city dweller is neglectful of his chances for contributing to the attractiveness of the street. In some European cities householders are required to maintain window boxes of flowers, so that each building is a veritable vertical garden. Here, with the dwellings almost exclusively built in solid rows, these window boxes might become a rich addition to the city's appearance. At present the unbroken walls of brick and stone present a monotonous aspect, which might be easily modified, and at small expense. These window boxes require but little care and attention, and can be kept filled with flowering plants from early spring till autumn at a very slight cost. With a little organization whole blocks of houses could be thus decorated by agreement between the householders so that the city would glow continually with color and foliage, and be much more pleasing to the eye than at present.

Insurance experts in England consider it an even chance that the war will end before next winter. German writers claim that it will not end for five years. Even in matters of scientific calculation differences of opinion assert themselves.

Washington is naturally the scene of controversy, among the more recent manifestations in that line being a spirited argument between the first robin and the last snowbird.

To some slight degree the reports of enormous losses may be due to a determination on the part of every censor to give the other side the worst of it.

Some of Gifford Pinchot's observations lead to an impression that he is now willing to admit that there are worse places than Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania, it appears, has a chief executive who takes his office seriously. He insists on being governor in fact as well as in name. He has opinions, and the courage of them. The result is a coolness, to put it mildly, toward him on the part of some of the republican leaders who were active last year in his campaign.

Gov. Brumbaugh is opposed to the drink evil, and would have much stricter state legislation on the subject. This he has not been able to secure—may not be able to secure during his term. He is ineligible for re-election. But he is in the fight to stay, and, if necessary, will continue his activities after his term expires. This is the sort of man for public

life in this country. Would there were more such in high public station. An official cannot, of course, have everything his own way. Interests clash, and compromises become necessary. But silence on his part when speech is demanded, or a half-hearted effort to do a thing when energy and staying power are demanded, should never be the course adopted.

The country has just been reading about a governor who thought he could be master while placating the man to whom he owed his office. He thought he could "get along" with a boss. In a way, he did. But the revelations have not increased his prestige as a reformer, or rounded up his credit as a man of backbone. He seems to have been more in the boss' hands than the boss was in his. He complained that the boss was not as "easy" as his reputation had induced him to expect.

Gov. Brumbaugh has now and then been mentioned in connection with the presidency. The suggestion has been made that he might figure in next year's republican national convention as Pennsylvania's favorite son. If he has incurred the ill-will of the republican organization in the state we shall not see such a thing.

But that is no matter. Beyond a personal compliment, there would be nothing in the presentation of the name of a Pennsylvanian for President next year. The state is marked "sure" in all republican calculations. Whether the candidate is taken from east, west or northwest, he will be expected to carry Pennsylvania by a majority almost as large as the state gave Mr. Roosevelt in 1904 under the leadership of Mr. Penrose, then one of Mr. Roosevelt's closest friends.

The War's Staggering Figures.

The costs of the war are but estimates, but the estimates are staggering. It is very difficult, indeed, to digest them. They suggest a riot in round numbers. They throw into the shade values which hitherto have been considered enormous.

For an instance, alarming changes have been rung on the cost of running this government in time of peace for a year. A billion dollars! What, now, is a billion dollars? How small the sum looks by comparison with the war expenses in Europe! Money is being poured out there in floods. Nothing like it has ever been known before.

How much longer the experience will continue no man may say. The tenth month of the outlay is drawing to a close, the area of conflict is widening, and while the need exists the money must be found.

At the close of the war the heads of army establishments will be required to take stock, and ascertain what is necessary for the future. The unparalleled struggle will have taught much. And the same is true of navy establishments. War on the water has developed phases both new and expensive.

International lawyers will find much to do. Many old agreements have gone by the board. The need of highly important new agreements will be pressing. A beginning at the beginning will be necessary to meet an occasion produced by a world commotion.

Then trade. Captains of industry everywhere will have to bestir themselves. Industries which have languished must be revived. Such as have been going on one wheel must again be propelled by two. Old markets will again invite, and new will be sought. Again the great producing nations will engage in a contest for big business, to be made, if possible, bigger than ever.

But the financiers will have the most stupendous and the most urgent tasks. At the start they will tackle a sort of chaos. Confusion everywhere. Losses beyond all precedent. Anxiety universal. Distrust on every hand. And yet action will be imperative, and must at once begin. For on the bases of the new financial arrangements the future, for good or ill, must rest.

Business? There will be business for everybody. Soldier, sailor, lawyer, statesman, tradesman, financier, will be busier than ever before, and on old problems in new forms, and new problems in forms so large there will be nothing to guide by. The coming era of peace—may it soon begin!—will be the busiest in recorded annals.

A loan shark does not hesitate to apply the direct and inquisitorial methods that a government is not permitted to apply in collecting more legitimate taxation.

An aeroplane and Zeppelin battle still leaves theory on the side of the Zeppelin and practical result on the side of the aeroplane.

War Developments.

Just at present activities on the western front of the European battlefield indicate that perhaps the long expected "spring drive" of the allies is in progress. The French and British forces have been vigorously on the aggressive for several days with the result of forcing back the German line for a considerable distance. It is true that the gains accomplished by the allies are actually slight compared with the movements in the eastern war area, where the Russian forces have swept back and forth over a zone of scores of miles in their successive advances and retreats. But these western gains of the allies are reckoned by their commanders as of more importance to their side than the Teutonic advance of fifty miles in Galicia, which has lately completely altered the aspect of things in the east.

It seems to be the Russian misfor-

tune not to be able to hold an advanced position long or to maintain unbrokenly an aggressive movement. Whether this is due to lack of military quality or shortage of supplies or the superior mobility of the Teutonic forces will probably not be known until the whole record of the war is disclosed after peace has been restored. Yet the great numbers of the Russians in reserve serve to offset the heavy losses suffered by the czar's forces at the front, and it has become an aphorism of this great struggle that Russia can better afford to be beaten than Germany to advance, so disproportionate is the ratio of losses to reserves.

Little has been noted lately regarding the Dardanelles campaign, which appears to be progressing with less speed on the part of the allies than at the outset. Yet every authentic report from that scene of action indicates a continuous advance by the British and French forces along the Gallipoli peninsula, in conjunction with the operations of the fleets. The conquest of the Dardanelles is proving one of the hardest problems of the anti-German movement, but its results are certain to be so important that it is regarded as an essential feature of the general campaign of the allies.

An air raid that injures a woman and kills two children, the record of a recent flight over Calais, cannot be regarded as contributing much to the actual progress of a military campaign.

Climatic influence on base ball might be an interesting subject of scientific inquiry. Washington's players are usually backward when the weather is unseasonably cold.

The departure of Dr. Dernburg cannot be expected to bring up the sentimental demonstration customary when a prominent citizen of another country concludes his visit.

It has been shown by the safe arrival of the Transylvania that the perils of the war zone are not absolutely inevitable.

The controller's office has created a shift in the rhetorical storm center from Syracuse to Washington.

The Riggs Bank and the controller's office have decided to investigate each other.

After reviewing the fleet, the country will proceed to think it over.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Discovery.

"What I want to find for the summer is a nice, quiet place where I can do as I please."

"That's my idea exactly. I'm going to stay home."

Whether a man has excusable or inexcusable faults depends almost entirely on whether you happen to like him or not.

Endless Endeavor.

A horse is like a candidate; He runs, amid the cheering great, And every time a race is o'er He has to train to run some more.

A Linguist's Advantage.

"Of course, a diplomat should learn a great many languages."

"It is desirable," replied Senator Sorghum, "if not essential, for a diplomat to learn many languages. The close study required may prevent him from talking too much in any of them."

Arduous Occupation.

"Does it require great mental effort to be a photographer?"

"Yes, indeed," replied Mr. Snapsum, "You have to sit up nights learning funny stories to tell customers in order to make 'em smile and look natural."

Contrast.

When the little birds are singing in the Mayday,
And also in the trees,
While Nature smiles at ease,
Don't fancy all this life will be a play-day.

In an hour or two perhaps it's going to freeze.

When the atmosphere is blustery and chilly
And the sky is grimly gray
Over a dark and doleful day,
Don't imagine that the grouch is here to stay.

For the sunshine, if it lingers, grows oppressive,
And the shadow brings relief,
Till it turns to somber grief,
And the need of learning not to be excessive
Of mortal needs is possibly the chief.

Jersey's Disgrace.

From the New York Tribune.
It would be difficult to find language to condemn too severely the failure of the New Jersey legislature to provide funds for the annual encampment of the National Guard. Such folly, and in the present hour, passes all human understanding.

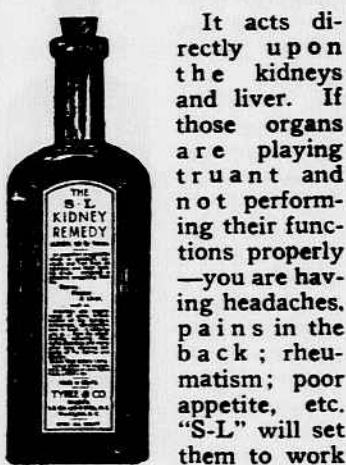
Precisely such parsimony as this explained the death lists at Camp Alger and Chickamauga in the Spanish war. The greatest advantage of the encampment for the guardian is the training he obtains in taking care of himself. It is an insurance against useless and unnecessary loss of life in time of war.

To the guardian service in the militia represents personal sacrifice. It is a gift made by the youth of the country in the name of patriotism. There is no prospect of proper reward. No hope of it.

But why this gift should be spurned, why every opportunity should be seized to make militia service less attractive, the militia less useful, can hardly be explained. It is a folly beyond all palliation, and approximates actual betrayal of the country's interests.

It is to be hoped that New Jersey will find no imitators in a policy which is a disgrace to its public life.

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Now will you allow me to help you plan for such a trip? That's what I'm here for. You are planning to spend a sum that entitles you to see the best money in the West. Give me an idea of when you want to go, how long you can stay, etc., and I will plan a trip especially fitted to your time and needs, also send you without charge, such pictures, maps and printed descriptive matter as will aid you to determine the best thing to do. Write, call or telephone. Let me help.

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Princess Madras in dainty colorings and designs, with valance, \$3.75 set. Voile curtains, with shaped valance and ball fringe, white trimmed in blue, white, yellow and pink. Very special \$1.85 set.

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Floral and conventional designs, gold traced and white and gold, with beautifully decorated mat gold handles.

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A set should be in every kitchen; splendid quality yellow earthenware, three size bowls to the set.

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Plain Glass, Etched Glass, Colonial and Cut Glass; a shape and design for every kind of bloom.

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Coasters.....45c dozen
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We mention a few of the many items.

Steamer Trunks; canvas covered; malleable iron braced clamps, lock and bolts; strong hinges and rivets; cloth lining.
Sizes: 32-inch 34-inch 36-inch 38-inch 40-inch

Sale prices.....\$6.95 \$6.95 \$6.95 \$7.95 \$7.95

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Men's Oxford Club Bags, of heavy black goat leather; leather lining; sewed frame and sewed corners; best lock and catches.